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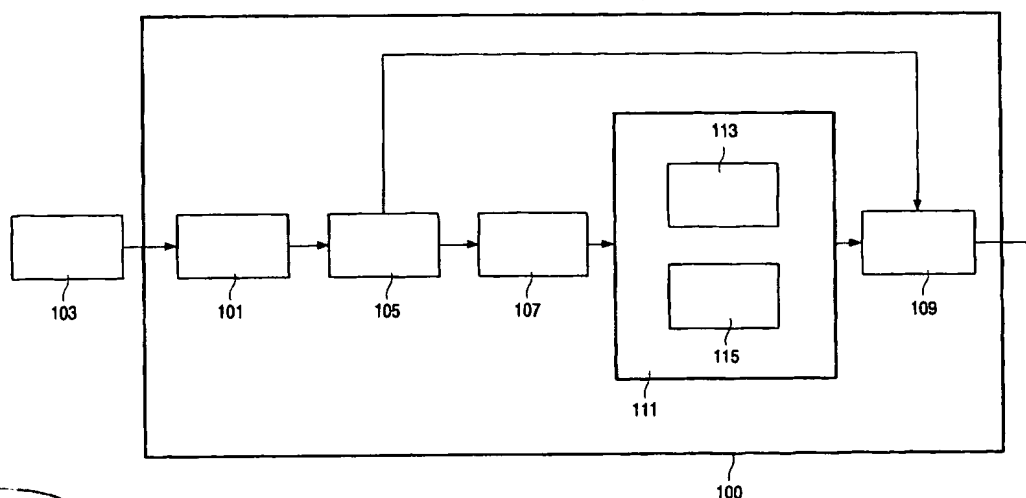
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(54) Title: **TRANSCODER FOR A VARIABLE LENGTH CODED DATA STREAM**



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a transcoder (100) for a variable length coded data stream such as an MPEG 2 coded data stream. The transcoder (100) comprises a receiver (101) which receives the variable length coded data stream. The receiver (101) is connected to a significance processor (107) that determines if a variable length coded coefficient is significant or less significant. The significance processor (107) is connected to a truncation processor (111) which truncates the less significant coefficients. The transcoder further comprises an encode processor (109) which generates a transcoded data stream from the original significant coefficients and the truncated less significant coefficients. All processing may be performed exclusively in the variable length code domain thereby providing a low complexity and high speed transcoder.

WO 2004/049722 A1